

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5671

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USNMR SHAPE

USEUCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 0314

USEUCOM FOR AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL'S PACT PROPOSAL

SUMMARY: REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL PRESENTED ITS PROPOSAL FOR REVISED ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT-PARTIES PACT JAN 14. PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR DIRECT ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND RETAINS REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL VETO OVER NOMINATION OF PRIME MINISTER AND CERTAIN TYPES OF LEGISLATION. PROPOSAL REPRESENTS COMPROMISE BETWEEN POSITIONS

OF "POLITICAL" AND "OPERATIONAL" MILITARY, WEIGHTED TOWARD "POLITICALS." PARTIES WILL PUSH HARD FOR REDUCTION IN POWERS

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OF MILITARY AND RC IN NEGOTIATIONS SET FOR NEXT WEEK. END SUMMARY.

1. RC PROPOSAL: ARMY CHIEF GEN EANES PRESENTED PROPOSAL FOR REVISED ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) - PARTIES PACT TO POLITICAL PARTIES JAN 14. RC COMMITTEE ON PACT WILL MEET WITH POLITICAL PARTIES INDIVIDUALLY NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS THEIR REACTIONS. MAIN ELEMENTS OF RC PROPOSAL PROVIDE FOR:

- FOLLOWING RANKING OF GOVERNMENTAL ORGANS: (1) PRESIDENT; (2) RC; (3) LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY; (4) GOVERNMENT; AND (5) COURTS.
- DIRECT ELECTION OF PRESIDENT WHO WOULD SERVE AS CHAIRMAN OF RC AND SUPREME COMMANDER OF ARMED FORCES.
- PRESIDENT TO DESIGNATE AND DISMISS PRIME MINISTER UPON CONSULTATION WITH RC, POLITICAL PARTIES, AND GOVERNMENT.
- PRESIDENT TO DISSOLVE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT REQUEST OF RC, OR IN CASES OF REJECTION OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAM, VOTE OF NON-CONFIDENCE, OR ASSEMBLY APPROVAL OF CENSURE MOTION.
- RC RESPONSIBILITY FOR GUARANTEEING DEMOCRATIC AND SOCIALIST REVOLUTION.
- RC VETO OVER NOMINATION OF PRIME MINISTER, AND VETO OVER LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DECREES IN FOLLOWING AREAS: (1) DEFINITION OF LIMITS OF STATE, COLLECTIVE, AND PRIVATE PROPERTY; (2) FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO FORMER COLONIES; (3) NATIONAL DEFENSE; (4) FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION; AND (5) ELECTIONS.
- RC TO RETAIN LEGISLATIVE COMPETENCE IN MILITARY MATTERS.
- END TO AFM ASSEMBLY.
- CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION COMPOSED PREDOMINANTLY OF MAGISTRATES TO FUNCTION ALONGSIDE RC.
- GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE TO PRESIDENT AND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2. CHANGES IN PACT: RC PROPOSAL MODIFIES EXISTING PACT BY:

- ELIMINATING AFM ASSEMBLY.
- PROVIDING FOR DIRECT ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.
- ELIMINATING RC ROLE IN DEFINING "PROGRAMMATIC ORIENTATION OF POLICY."
- LIMITING RC AUTHORITY TO RULE ON CONSTITUTIONALITY.
- ELIMINATING RC ROLE IN CHOICE OF CABINET.
- NOT REQUIRING THAT PRESIDENT BE MILITARY.

3. PCP REACTION: OCTAVIO PATO OF SECRETARIAT OF COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP) CENTRAL COMMITTEE TOLD PRESS JAN 14 THAT, GIVEN ABOLITION OF AFM ASSEMBLY, PCP COULD ACCEPT DIRECT ELECTION

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OF PRESIDENT, WHO COULD BE EITHER MILITARY OR CIVILIAN.

4. PS AND PPD REACTIONS: PS SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF JAN 14 THAT RC PROPOSAL WAS UNACCEPTABLE. HE SAID PROPOSAL WAS PRODUCT OF MELO ANTUNES AND PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES. PS CONSIDERED PROPOSAL LITTLE MORE THAN A WARMED-OVER VERSION OF EXISTING PACT. PS PARTICULARLY OBJECTED TO BROAD VETO POWER STILL RESERVED TO RC. PPD SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT RC PROPOSAL MARKED USEFUL PROGRESS IN BAR-

GAINING PROCESS, DESPITE SOME NEGATIVE FEATURES. HE WAS MOST CONCERNED WITH PROVISIONS ALLOWING RC MORE THAN CONSULTATIVE ROLE IN FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT AND VETO POWER OVER NON-MILITARY LEGISLATION. HE ALSO FEARED THAT RC HAD RESERVED POWER TO INTERVENE TO ENSURE ADHERENCE TO ITS DEFINITION OF CONSTITUTION.

5. COMMENT: RC PROPOSAL REPRESENTS COMPROMISE BETWEEN POSITIONS OF "POLITICAL" AND "OPERATIONAL" MILITARY, WEIGHTED TOWARDS "POLITICALS." THE AGREEMENT IN THE RC AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PARTIES LAYS THE GROUNDWORK FOR A TOUGH STRUGGLE WITH PS AND PPD. PARTIES WILL PUSH HARD FOR REDUCTION IN POLITICAL POWERS OF MILITARY AND RC IN NEGOTIATIONS SET FOR NEXT WEEK.
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